31st July 1952]

Relief measures for the unemployed ex-tappers.

* 72 *Q.*—Sri S. B. ADITYAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the estimated number of tappers (district-war) who were thrown out of employment by reason of introduction of Prohibition is;

(*b*) what were the alternative employments provided for them by the Government and how many persons (district-war) were provided with such alternative employment; and

(*c*) whether any other relief was given to the unemployed ex-tappers, and if so, how many persons (district-war) were given such relief?

The Hon. Sri V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDAR :—" (*a*) *to* (*c*) The answer [a] is printed and placed on the table of the House."

Sri S. B. ADITYAN :—" May I know, Sir, if the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition will explain how the number of ex-tappers provided with employment actually exceeds the number of ex-tappers? "

The Hon. Sri V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDAR :—" The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to the foot-note below which explains the situation."

Sri S. B. ADITYAN :—" The foot-note does not refer to the total. It says that there may be some tappers of one district who are employed in another district, but looking at the total, we see that the actual number of ex-tappers given employment is 184,000 whereas the total number of ex-tappers in the whole State is only 163,000. What I wish to ask is, whether there are people who made a bogus claim that they were ex-tappers while, in fact, they were not ex-tappers, and the Government provided them with employment? "

The Hon. Sri V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDAR :—" It is also explained in the foot-note. If the hon. Member properly scrutinizes it, he will understand the situation. The same tapper is being employed in more than one avocation and that is the reason for the increase in the number of persons employed."

Sri S. B. ADITYAN :—" Is it correct to persume that according to the Government no ex-tapper is now unemployed? "

The Hon. Sri V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDAR :—" The Government are not in a position to vouch for it. The Government depend upon reports received from local officers."

Sri S. B. ADITYAN :—" If I bring to the notice of the Government the case of ex-tappers who are now without any employment, will the Government provide them with employment? "

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[a] Printed as Appendix III on page 479 infra.

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THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDAR :—" Yes, Sir, we will try to find employment for them."

Relief measures for the unemployed ex-tappers.

* 73 *Q.*—SRI K. SURYANARAYANA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of ex-tappers in the districts of East Godavari and West Godavari who were thrown out of employment; and

(*b*) the relief measures taken by the Government for the unemployed ex-tappers?

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDAR :—

" (*a*) The number of ex-tappers in the districts of East Godavari and West Godavari who were thrown out of employment is as follows :—

East Godavari—11,776.

West Godavari—12,000.

" (*b*) To provide the ex-tappers with alternate employment, Government permitted the tapping of palm juice for the manufacture of jaggery on a co-operative basis and jaggery manufacturing societies were organized almost throughout the State. In view of the potentialities of palm gur industry to provide work to the ex-tappers, the staff of the Co-operative Department have launched a scheme for giving State-wide training to the ex-tapper members of jaggery manufacturing co-operative societies in the improved method of production of jaggery and for introducing the industry in the areas where the ex-tappers were not quite familiar with it. Government have sanctioned a subsidy of Rs. 10,000 to be distributed to ex-tappers towards half the cost of the gur-making implements purchased by them. With a view to enable the ex-tappers who are members of palm jaggery societies to take to dairying as a subsidiary occupation, interest-free loans from Government for the purchase of milch animals were permitted to be given to them. In addition to jaggery manufacturing co-operative societies, milk-supply co-operative societies, land colonization co-operative societies, cottage industries societies, tenants' co-operative societies, labour contract societies and other special types of societies were formed to provide ex-tappers with employment through them. The cultivable waste poramboke and lanka lands are also assigned to the deserving tappers through co-operative societies wherever feasible. They were also trained in hand-spinning and admitted as members of khadi development co-operative society to enable them to pursue the industry. Steps were also taken to provide work to the ex-tappers in other modes of employment as unskilled workers in industrial concerns as peons, watchmen, etc., in Government and other institutions and as gang coolies, chowkidars, etc."